OSCE ODIHR
HATE CRIME REPORTING

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2023 Hate Crime Report.
For more information, including on previous years' reporting, please visit: hatecrime.osce.org/portugal

For more information about ODIHR's Hate Crime Report, visit: hatecrime.osce.org/our-methodology

1 2023

Summary

Portugal regularly reports information on hate crimes to ODIHR. Hate crime data is collected by Portugal's Ministry of Justice and the Prosecutor's Office.

Portugal has launched a series of action plans in recent years to combat discrimination, including a plan to combat racism (PNCRD 2021-2025), the National Strategy to Combat Poverty and Social Exclusion, the National Strategy for Equality and Non-Discrimination (2018-2030), the National Implementation Plan of the Global Compact for Migration, the National Roma Communities Integration Strategy (2013-2022), and the National Programme on Holocaust Remembrance.

In 2018, the Ministry of Justice, ODIHR and the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights co-organized a workshop to improve hate crime recording and data collection, based on ODIHR's Information Against Hate Crimes Toolkit (INFAHCT). The workshop resulted in a set of recommendations for relevant state authorities.

Hate crime data collection in Portugal
Support for hate crime victims in Portugal
Hate crime capacity building in Portugal
Portugal's hate crime legislation

ODIHR's Key Observation

ODIHR recognizes Portugal's efforts to report hate crime information and data to ODIHR. However, based on the available information, ODIHR observes that law enforcement agencies have not recorded the bias motivations behind hate crimes and that Portugal's hate crime statistics do not sufficiently distinguish hate crimes from other crimes. In addition, ODIHR observes that Portugal would benefit from raising awareness among and building the capacity of criminal justice officials to address hate crime.

Official Data

Police-recorded figures, as well as figures on prosecuted and sentenced cases, refer to incidents of discrimination and incitement to hatred and violence, and thus cover incidents that fall outside the OSCE's definition of hate crime.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2023	344	5	3

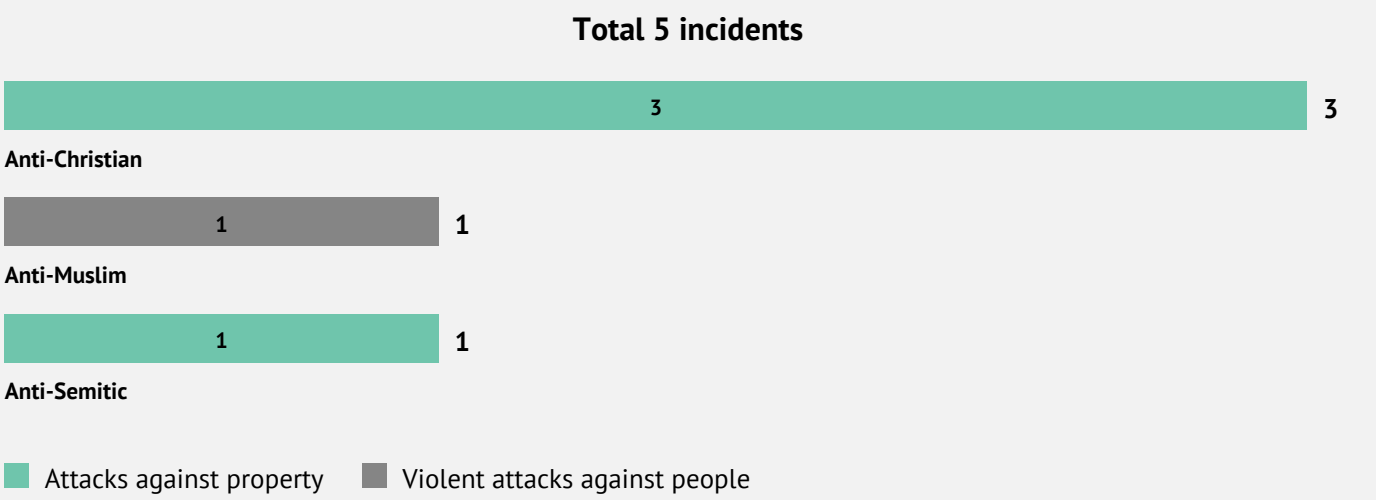
National Developments

In 2023, the Polícia Judiciária organized a 12-hour training course promoted by a number of civil society associations, including the Portuguese Association for Victim Support (APAV), ILGA, Commission for Equality and Against Racial Discrimination (CICDR), and the Commission for Citizenship and Gender Equality (CIG).

The Office of the Prosecutor-General published guidelines for prosecutors on the exercise of professional duties in line with the latest report on Portugal issued by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD). The High Council of Public Prosecutors was also informed of the training needs identified by CERD to ensure the judiciary's effective knowledge and concrete implementation of the norms inscribed in ICERD. These training needs will be reported to the Centre for Judiciary Studies so that the CERD's recommendations may be reflected in the initial and in-service training curricula for judges and prosecutors.

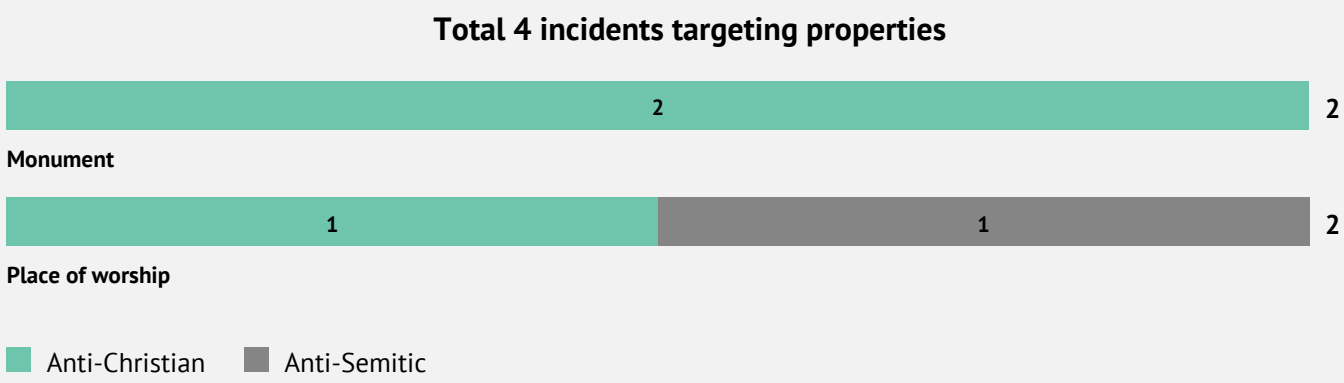
As of 2023, there are nine victim support organizations in operation in Portugal, specifically in Aveiro, Braga, Coimbra, Faro, Leiria, Lisbon-West, Lisbon-North, Lisbon-South, and Porto-East. By 2024, one more will open in Setúbal. On 28 August 2023, priorities and guidelines for criminal policy, 2023-2025, were established in line with Article 8 of Law no. 51/2023, which also provides for the creation of two support offices for victims of gender-based violence in each calendar year.

Incidents reported by civil society

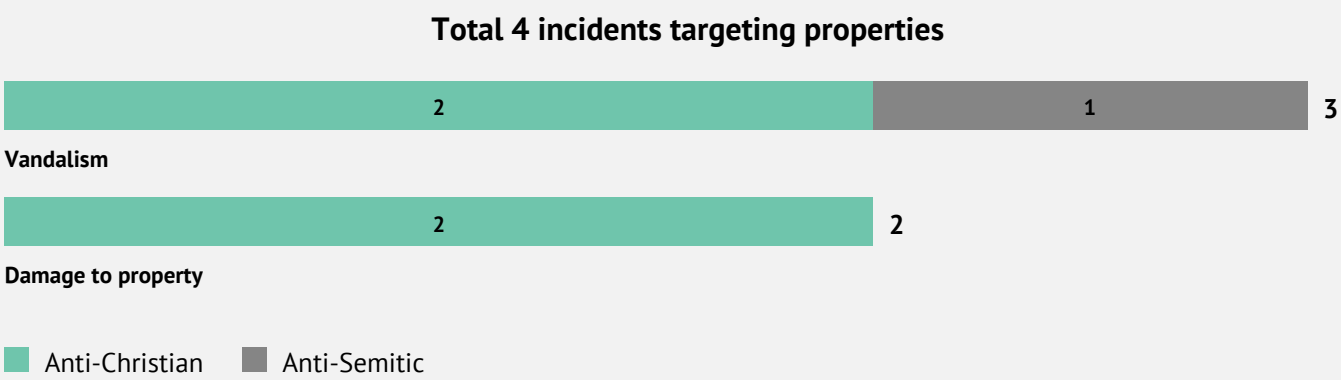


Please note that the total number of incidents may be lower than the sum of incidents presented in the breakdown chart above, as some incidents involve multiple bias motivations.

Targeted properties



Type of property attack



View civil society incidents for Portugal, 2023